

ABAC Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2007

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Stephan Miller, Ted Packard, Scott Smith, Ron Sender, and Christopher Tonkin. Kevin Davis, Joey Glushko, and Jeff Roth also attended.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31.

*The February minutes were approved without modification.

Review of recent events including ABAC Winter Social held on February 15, 2007. This year's Social went well. Our formula works and seems to be worth our time. Chris suggested that Craig Della Penna could be a speaker next year. Jack suggested that we could talk about new bike paths.

Continue planning discussion for the annual BIKE-Arlington Tour, scheduled for Sunday May 20. Scott recommended that we test-ride a new route that he has mapped out. We will take advantage of the next warm Saturday to try out the new route. We will communicate the date and time of this test-ride by email.

Update on bike-rack ordering (MAPC grant). Joey is working on an order for this spring. Ron asked if we have worked out the final locations for these racks. Jack reminded us that we have discussed the possible locations and their priorities.

Update on Minuteman Bikeway brochure reprint. A new printing is in the works. The Cambridge Savings Bank has, once again, stepped in to foot the bill. This is probably the last reprint of the current design. The next printing will be updated and redesigned.

Update on the MWRA sewer project along the bikeway corridor in Arlington which should have minimal impact on bikeway usage. Jack told us that there will be no pipes on the Bikeway this time around. The work will be done mostly on weekdays with some night work possible.

Discuss proposal for creating and installing new banners for the Minuteman Bikeway gateways in Arlington Center. Jack suggested a change in color from maroon to bright blue so that the banners can be seen more easily. We discussed what material could be used including fabric, plastic, mesh and metal. We also talked about the message—perhaps symbolic rather than textual. We will need to find someone to pay for the cost of the new banners. No one on the committee knows who designed the original banners.

Brief update on proposed off-road connection in Lexington between the Minuteman Bikeway and the Battle Road Trail. This trail is being proposed by

the Lexington Bicycle committee. They are looking for approval from the Lexington Town Meeting and think that they can get Federal funding.

Update on ABAC memo to Selectmen regarding DCR's proposed Alewife Brook path. Jack drafted this memo and Joey is reviewing it. Jack attended the joint Selectmen/ARB meeting. He reiterated our support for this project. The Selectmen are already in favor of a footpath on the Arlington side of the brook to Henderson St and a bike path on the Somerville side. They recently voted to oppose a bike path on the Arlington side. The memo will ask the Selectmen to reconsider their former negative vote.

Open forum. We had an extensive debate on the merits of plowing the Bike Path.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31

*Denotes a vote was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller.